

For the Journal.

Celebration of the Fourth at Freeport.

At early dawn noise of guns and other missiles reminded us of one occasion when gun-powder was not used for the foolish purpose of trying to imitate thunder. On account of revolutionary scenes, reminiscences of heroism and glorious achievements, the sound of a rifle or cannon may awaken feelings of patriotism or grandeur. But, (Mr. Editor, can you tell us what *fire-crackers* were invented for? I heard them all day long at repeated onslaughts, and so far as my own nerves were concerned could not realize anything either of the sublime or ridiculous. Perhaps they please the boys. If they are suited to develop the genius and spirit of youth, might it not be well for parents and guardians to suggest a proper time and place? They can have no possible relation to the American revolution. I am not alone in saying they added nothing to the celebration here.)

At 11 o'clock a procession was formed under the charge of the marshal of the day, Dr. Carman, assisted by Messrs. Bryant and Entsminger, and marched to martial music to a pleasant grove, south of the village.—The president of the day, J. Kelley, Esq., announced the order of exercises. Prayer by J. McCutchen; reading of declaration of independence by Dr. Hutchins. Rev. Mr. Piper gave an address to parents, replete with good counsel. He endeavored to exalt the family institution in the estimation of his hearers on account of its far reaching influence. The parents' work is upon something more valuable than material: immortal mind. This comes to them as virgin gold, to be moulded. Its creator has not marked it by a single impression. This work is entrusted to the parents. They are to settle the question—what shall this infant mind become? Such men as Payson, Wilberforce and Washington, owed the formation of their characters, under God, to parental discipline. The pernicious life and miserable death of such a man as Voltaire is a true comment on parental misguidance and neglect. But parental influence flows on far beyond this life. The character of immortal mind is formed for a higher sphere than earth. The parents only see the full development of their work when they look along through eternity—raise their eyes heavenward and trace the progress of the immortal mind in its upward flight, or mark its descent down to hell as it continues to sink in degradation forever!

Rev. J. McCutchen, of Millgrove, addressed the children of the Sabbath schools. He said he had addressed them so often before on such occasions, that when he received an invitation to speak to them this time, he felt a little puzzled what to say. He was reminded of an anecdote of a fellow who filled a barrel with cider, put the head in, made it all secure at the top, and then went to drawing out by a tap at the bottom. One day he went to draw out, and it wouldn't run. He opened the top of the barrel, and, to his surprise, found the cider was all out. The poor fellow had not dreamed of such a calamity, since he had not taken any out of the top. So the speaker said his stock of ideas for the children was about all gone and he found it necessary to study up something new. In turning his mind to several subjects, he could think of nothing which would be of so much use to them as the study of a certain book, which some called a book of priestcraft. This book of priestcraft—ah! what did I call it?—this book of books, the Bible, is the very best of books for the study of boys and girls and men and women of every profession. The former can have no better teacher. He had been into an orchard which bore richer and more abundant fruit than any neighboring trees. He asked the owner why his trees were so much better than others. He replied that they had been cultivated according to the bible. Most persons think they have been taught the use of manures by custom. But a knowledge of their use can be traced to the bible. The best doctors get a great deal of their skill from the bible. They adopt the theory that a good conscience void of offence both to God and man, a life of plain and simple habits, is the best antidote to disease and physical suffering. No man can become a good lawyer who does not regard the bible.

A young man wanted to become a lawyer. He had heard of one who had become celebrated, and sought instruction from him.—The first book his distinguished teacher put into his hands was the bible. "What is this?" said the young man, turning over the leaves, "I did not come here to study for the ministry." "I know it," said his teacher. "If you wish to become a good lawyer, you must study this book every day: the bible contains the first principles of law." So it is in everything. We need the teaching and influence of the bible. If you would become useful and eminent in any profession, study the bible. But I intend to be brief. I told you about the empty cider barrel.—Some folks talk after their ideas have all run out, and add a great many words to make up the deficiency. I may have got into the same difficulty. I will sit down before I go further.

Next in order, came a discussion of the Maine law—shall it become the law of Ohio? Affirmative, Dr. Gorsuch; negative, Mr. Entsminger. Both of these gentlemen are ready speakers, and they were quite unanimous in the high stand which they took in behalf of temperance. The Doctor endeavored to sustain the position that the Maine law is the only successful remedy to drunkenness, since it makes a clean sweep by taking off the whole posteriors of that ugly beast hard up to his ears. He ventured his opinion that the Ohio temperance law, and all others taking but partial ground, were, as to the result of putting an entire stop to the evils of intemperance, an entire failure. Mr. E. condemned the Maine law as a great evil, partial in its bearing, while it does not arrest the tide of drunkenness; it takes away the avails of labor from the poor man by allowing English grog to be introduced under high duties, thus putting this whole business into the hands of the rich, and all amounted in point of fact to turning out both cow and calf to suck together. Volunteer speeches were then called for. Some one from the crowd said he was born and brought up in Maine, and had seen the working of the Maine law. It is simple and cheap. A boy of common intelligence could manage it. All other law is often intricate, difficult to manage, and fails to secure its object. But the Maine law puts its grapples on the drunkard-maker and winds up the cursed traffic at once. In those towns where the people were disposed to put it in force, the drinker could not get a single dram. It had been tried in Bangor. A regular blue determined to have his grog, heard it could be had at a certain apothecary shop under the assumed name of medicine. He called for a dose of paragonic. The poor fellow had an awful time of it. He has not called for a glass since. He has a great opinion of the Maine law. The speaker said he was proud of his native state—the lumber state—away down east—it had a great many good things in it. But the Maine law is the best thing. He hoped it would become the American law, and that the day would soon come when we shall be as free from British and foreign grog as we are from British rule.

The exercises were enlivened by singing by the Freeport Musical Association, and by martial music, under the direction of Mr. Crusen of Millgrove. The stripes and stars waved proudly over the scene, which was truly patriotic. On the whole, it was a very pleasant celebration. Reminded by what was before me, of many scenes of a like joyous nature in many a town and village of our glorious happy country, but one sad thought oppressed my heart, of three millions of poor enslaved native Americans. I could but utter a simple prayer to the God of liberty that they might all soon be free and unite in the American jubilee song, "OUR FLAG IS THERE."

SPECTATOR.

DEATH FROM THE BITE OF A SNAKE.—On the 12th inst., Purnell Jackson, of Worcester county, Md., was bitten on the end of his finger by a copper-head snake, from the effects of which he died next day. Immediately after being bitten, he drank a large quantity of whiskey, thinking to counteract the effect of the poison, but, unfortunately, it had no such effect. When he died, the whole of his arm and a portion of his body were perfectly green.

Acquitted Murderers in Kentucky.

There have been scores of notorious cases of murder and acquittal in this city and in this state. There was the case of Knuz, who killed Schaeffer. Knuz, hearing that Schaeffer had spoken lightly of a member of his family, went to his coffee-house and cursed him. Schaeffer picked up a small stick, and went around the counter as if to strike Knuz, whereupon the latter thrust a deadly weapon into his breast and killed him. He was tried and discharged without punishment.—There was the case of Delph, who killed his uncle, Reuben Liler. Delph armed himself deliberately, and went to the upper market house to meet Liler. He met him, sought a quarrel with him, and shot him dead on the spot. The quarrel was about a prostitute. There was the case of Croxton, who killed Hawthorn. Hawthorn was in a coffee-house, sitting in a chair, drunk and asleep. Croxton struck him on the head in that condition with a brick-bat, and killed him. He was acquitted by a jury. There was the case of Peters, who killed Baker. In Natchez, a long time before, Baker had wounded Peters in a fight, and made him a cripple. Peters being thus disabled, Baker supported him. The latter, after about a year, became very poor, and discontinued his bounty. Thereupon, Peters pursued him to this city, rode one night in a hack to his house, sent the hackman to inform him that a gentleman and friend wished to see him on business, and when Baker came out and stood at the window of the hack, shot him dead. Peters was acquitted by the jury, and lived here some years afterwards—long enough, indeed, to murder, or try to murder, a prostitute, upon whose bounty he subsisted. There was the case of the Pendegasts, who killed Buchanan, a schoolmaster. The elder Pendegast, with two of his sons and a negro, went to Buchanan's school-house with loaded guns, and killed him without giving him a chance for his life. The jury gave a verdict of acquittal. There was the case of Shelby, who killed Horine in Lexington. The two dined at the same public house, and upon Horine's going into the street, Shelby demanded of him why he had looked at him in such a manner at the table. Horine answered that he was not aware of having looked at him in any unusual manner. Shelby said, "you did, and if you ever do it again, I will blow your brains out. I don't know who you are." Horine responded, "I know you, and suppose a man may look at you, if your name is Shelby." At that, Shelby struck him with his fist, and, without any return of the blow, or any display of weapon by Horine, for he was unarmed, Shelby shot him dead. He was indicted, but the jury found no verdict against him. There was the case of Harry Daniel, of Mt. Sterling, who killed Clifton Thompson. Daniel and Thompson were lawyers, and brothers-in-law. Thompson made some imputation upon Daniels in open court. Daniel drew a pistol and shot him dead in the presence of judge and jury.—Thompson had a pistol in his pocket, but did not draw it. Daniel was acquitted by a jury.—[Louisville Journal.]

WOMEN LAWYERS.—The New Bedford Mercury, after chronicling the fact that one of the female spouters in the late Woman's Rights Convention, said she was studying law, with a view to practice it, says, quite humorously:

"We wish this new Portia all possible success, though we cannot help thinking she would do better with a little *tan* than Littleton—with a *cap* than a *capias*. All women like a declaration, though most prefer another kind to that in a writ. Still, our Blackstone in skirts may succeed wonderfully in courting, and win a silk gown in advance of all her competitors. The only injustice is, that her rhetoric may be heightened and rendered more heavenly by a pretty countenance, the present race of lawyers being by no means beautiful as to the phiz. In that case, as Sappho filched the laurels from Pindar, not by the force of her poetry, but by the fairness of her face, so Squire Nancy or Polly may carry off decisions from our soft-headed judges, when the law and the evidence are both on the side of some long-nosed, ill-favored, special pleader in pantaloons."

The New Treaty with Mexico.

The boundary fixed in the new treaty is as follows:—

Up the middle of the Rio Grande "to the point where the parallel of 31 deg. 47 min. north latitude crosses the same—thence due west one hundred miles—thence south to the parallel of 31 deg. 20 min. north latitude—thence along the said parallel to 111th meridian of longitude west of Greenwich—thence in a straight line to a point on the Colorado river twenty English miles below the junction of the Gila and Colorado rivers—thence up the middle of the said river Colorado, until it intersects the present line between the United States and Mexico."

This line, it will be seen by the map, gives us a strip of the Mexican state of Chihuahua and a large part of Sonora. The consideration given by the United States for this territory, and for a release from certain Mexican claims under the former treaty, is ten millions of dollars—seven millions on the exchange of ratifications, and the remaining three millions when the new boundary is surveyed. The seven millions have been paid.

The New York Journal of Commerce takes ground against the proposed withdrawal of the African squadron, for these several reasons:—

"It is as useful where it is, as it would be any where. It protects our commercial interests on that coast; it protects the colonies which we planted there; and, in connection with the efforts of the colonists and of the British squadron, it has nearly annihilated the slave trade. Until an American squadron was sent thither, the British squadron was in a great measure powerless, because the slave ships generally carried American colors, and very frequently escaped, through the reluctance of the British cruisers to practice upon American vessels, or vessels which might turn out to be American, the scrutiny necessary to ascertain their character."

The friends of Gov. Corwin in southern Ohio have in contemplation the erection of his statue in bronze, to be placed in some appropriate position in one of the cities of the Miami valley. A statue of the kind contemplated, say eight feet high, on a noble pedestal, with panels representing striking events in his career, will cost about fifteen thousand dollars. Jones, the sculptor, who has made a bust of Gov. Corwin in marble, will undertake to produce a model for the proposed statue. He is an enthusiastic admirer of the matchless western orator, and will give to the task that study which only a genuine "labor of love can extort from genius." Mr. Ames, the great bronze caster at Chicopee, Mass., has furnished a rough estimate of the cost of casting, chasing, &c., and is capable of doing the work in a style worthy to perpetuate to coming times the form and features of our favorite. A fund necessary to defray the expenses of the work will be raised by subscription, and the probability is that the city contributing the largest amount will be allowed to fix the site for the statue.

A Washington correspondent of the Maysville (Ky.) Express accuses the administration of seeking to put out a great light by nominating Gen. W. O. Butler to the governor of Nebraska. He says: "Gen. B. as governor of Nebraska, could no doubt have rendered valuable service to the country in organizing that territory and giving the impress of his high-toned principles to the institutions of the new state; but as Nebraska is *conceded to the north*, his services could be of little value." &c. He then trots the General out for the next presidency, adding that "if not sacrificed to the cunning of other aspirants, he will be the next president." It seems the General saw the dodge of Douglas to get him out of the way, and refused to be "sacrificed," by declining to be governor of Nebraska.

FEMALE POSTMASTERS.—The number of females at present holding the office of postmaster (or rather mistress) in the United States is 128. They are appointed, give bonds, are commissioned, and receive the same compensation for their services as other postmasters. Unmarried females *only* can hold the office of postmaster.